

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant appreciates the allowability of claims 1-10.

Claim 11 has been amended to better distinguish from the cited prior art. Specifically, claim 11 now requires that the non-planar dividing wall extends from a first sidewall portion to a second opposing sidewall portion. It should be appreciated that the required opening in the sidewall may be immediately adjacent one of the sidewalls, in which case the dividing wall would extend only as far as the opening.

Claims 11-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 151,153 to Palmer (hereinafter "Palmer"). For the following reasons, the rejection has been rendered moot by the amendment to claim 11.

Regarding amended claim 11, Palmer does not teach the a non-planar dividing wall extends from a first sidewall portion to a second opposing sidewall portion, as required. In Palmer, the dividing wall extends in a spiral-like manner within the casing. Thus, the dividing wall of Palmer does not extend from one sidewall to an opposing sidewall, as in the presently claimed invention. Therefore, since every limitation of the claim is not taught, amended claim 11 and its dependent claims 12-15 are patentable over Palmer.

Claims 11-15 were further rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 3,265,067 to Ehlinger (hereinafter "Ehlinger"). For the following reasons, the rejection has been

rendered moot by the amendment to claim 11.

Regarding amended claim 11, Ehlinger does not teach the a non-planar dividing wall extends from a first sidewall portion to a second opposing sidewall portion, as required. In Ehlinger, the walls (5) are shaped as concentric cylinders. Thus, none of the concentric walls of Ehlinger extends from one sidewall to an opposing sidewall, as in the presently claimed invention. Therefore, since every limitation of the claim is not taught, amended claim 11 and its dependent claims 12-15 are patentable over Ehlinger.

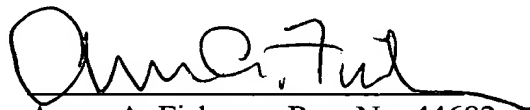
In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 32866US1.

Respectfully submitted,

PEARNE & GORDON LLP

By:

  
Aaron A. Fishman, Reg. No. 44682

526 Superior Avenue, East  
Suite 1200  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1484  
(216) 579-1700

Date: September 5, 2003